

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A display method for a navigation system for displaying a list of points of interest, comprising the  
5 following steps of:

receiving map data from a map data storage and retrieves information on points of interest specified by a user;

10 examining whether the point of interest in the retrieved information is located within a large structure;

retrieving an icon representing a type of the large structure in which the point of interest is located; and

15 displaying a name of the point of interest located within the large structure together with the icon of the large structure on a monitor screen.

2. A display method for a navigation system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said step of examining whether the point of interest is located within a large structure includes a step of checking point coordinate data in the map data representing a location of the point of interest and polygon data in the map data representing an area of a land or a structure to see whether or not the location of the point of interest is included within the area of the land or structure.

3. A display method for a navigation system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said step of examining whether the point of interest is located within a large structure includes a step of comparing point coordinate data in the map data representing a location of the point of interest and polygon data in the map data representing an area of a land or a structure, and a step of determining whether or not the location of the point of interest is within a boundary of the

large structure defined by the polygon data.

4. A display method for a navigation system as defined in Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

5 displaying detailed information on the large structure when the user specifies the icon representing the type of large structure.

10 5. A display method for a navigation system as defined in Claim 4, wherein said detailed information on the large structure displayed on the navigation system includes a name and an address of the large structure.

15 6. A display method for a navigation system as defined in Claim 4, wherein said step of displaying the detailed information on the large structure includes a step of producing a pop-up screen showing the detailed information on the monitor screen.

7. A display apparatus for a navigation system, comprising:

20 means for selecting a method for searching point of interest information;

a map data storage which stores map data including point of interest information and large structure information;

25 a point of interest display control unit which examines the map data from the map data storage and determines whether a point of interest is located within a large structure;

30 a memory which stores icons where each icon represents a type of large structure expressed by the large structure information in the map data; and

a monitor which displays information associated with the navigation system including a list of points of interest;

wherein said point of interest display control unit controls said monitor to display the point of

interest located within the large structure together with the icon of the large structure, thereby enabling the user to see whether or not a particular point of interest is located within a large structure.

5       8. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 7, wherein said point of interest display control unit checks point coordinate data in the map data representing a location of the point of interest and polygon data in the map data representing an area of a land or a  
10 structure to see whether or not the location of the point of interest is included within the area of the land or structure.

15      9. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 7, wherein said point of interest display control unit compares point coordinate data in the map data representing a location of the point of interest and polygon data in the map data representing an area of a land or a structure, and determines whether or not the location of the point of interest is within a boundary of the large structure  
20 defined by the polygon data.

25      10. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 7, wherein said point of interest display control unit causes said monitor to display detailed information on the large structure when the user specifies the icon representing the type of large structure.

11. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 10, wherein said detailed information on the large structure displayed on the navigation system includes a name and an address of the large structure.

30      12. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 10, wherein said point of interest display control unit causes said monitor to display a pop-up screen showing the detailed information on said large structure.

13. A display apparatus for a navigation system,

comprising:

means for receiving map data from a map data storage and retrieving information on points of interest specified by a user;

5 means for examining whether or not the point of interest in the retrieved information is located within a large structure;

10 means for retrieving an icon representing a type of the large structure in which the point of interest is located; and

means for displaying a name of the point of interest located within the large structure together with the icon of the large structure on a monitor screen.

15 14. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 13, wherein said means for examining whether the point of interest is located within a large structure includes means for checking point coordinate data in the map data representing a location of the point of interest and 20 polygon data in the map data representing an area of a land or a structure to see whether or not the location of the point of interest is included within the area of the land or structure.

15. A display apparatus for a navigation system as 25 defined in Claim 13, wherein said means for examining whether the point of interest is located within a large structure includes a step of comparing point coordinate data in the map data representing a location of the point of interest and polygon data in the map data representing an area of a land 30 or a structure, and means for determining whether or not the location of the point of interest is within a boundary of the large structure defined by the polygon data.

16. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 13, further comprising means for displaying

detailed information on the large structure when the user specifies the icon representing the type of large structure.

17. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 16, wherein said detailed information on the 5 large structure displayed on the navigation system includes a name and an address of the large structure.

18. A display apparatus for a navigation system as defined in Claim 16, wherein said means for displaying the detailed information on the large structure includes means 10 for producing a pop-up screen showing the detailed information on the monitor screen.